



LOUISIANA STATEWIDE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS – ROUND THREE
EXECUTIVE

January 23, 2014 • 1:30PM to 4:30PM
 LA DOTD Headquarters, Baton Rouge, LA

Last Name	First Name	Affiliation
Advisory Council Members		
Accardo, Jr.	Joe	Ports & Waterways AC Chair (Ports Association of LA)
Allen	Heath	Aviation AC Chair (Lake Charles Regional Airport)
Blackmon	Carmack	Freight Rail AC Chair (Louisiana Railroads Association)
Decker	Dennis	Regional Planning Officials AC Chair (LA DOTD)
Latino	Vince	State Hwy Operations & Maintenance AC Chair (LA DOTD)
Kalivoda (Chair)	Eric	LA DOTD
Bridges	Michael	LA DOTD
Jones	Phil	LA DOTD
Picard	Toby	LA DOTD
Williams	Janice	LA DOTD
Other Attendees		
Broussard	Dan	LA DOTD
Romeo	Robin	LA DOTD
Goodell	Dean	LA DOTD
Sholmire	Dawn	LA DOTD
Vary (Facilitator)	Don	CDM Smith
Babineaux	Butch	CDM Smith
Goodin	Krista	CDM Smith
Nelson	Gordon	Fenstermaker

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Third Round of Advisory Council meetings was to brief the Advisory Councils on the status of the Plan update, discuss revenue scenarios, review and finalize the policy recommendations, and discuss Plan implementation.

Note: This meeting summary is a compilation of the input received from the Advisory Council members and reflects the views expressed.

HANDOUTS

- Agenda
- Vision, Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures
- Revenue Forecast Charts
- Revenue Forecast Line Items
- Funding Options
- Megaprojects Priorities
- Megaprojects Maps
- Policy Recommendations

MEETING SUMMARY

The agenda for the Executive Advisory Council meeting included:

- Update of the Statewide Transportation Plan
- Brief Overview of Last Two Days

Eric Kalivoda, Executive AC Chair, welcomed the group and gave a brief introduction. He asked the Executive AC members to send comments on the Vision, Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures as they will go to the Policy Committee for final approval in the coming weeks. Mr. Kalivoda also explained the budget partitions that were reviewed by each Advisory Council. Don Vary, CDM Smith Project Manager, then presented the status of the Plan update. Highlights of the presentation included:

- Plan Status
 - Plan completion scheduled for mid-2014
 - Aviation and rail plans are under final review
 - Tasks to be completed:
 - Megaproject approvals
 - Supporting policies and implementation strategies
 - Economic impact analysis
 - Report assembly
- Vision, Goals, Objectives and Performance Measures
 - Final draft to be approved by Executive AC and Policy Committee
- Megaprojects
 - 113 projects were presented in August 2013 and sorted into Priorities A through D
 - A total of \$41.5B in projects were submitted including 29 new projects, 10 non-highway projects and 35 interstate projects
- Financial forecast
 - Scenario 1 (Baseline revenues) will generate \$18.6B by 2044
 - Scenario 2 (Reduction) will generate \$16.1B by 2044
 - Scenario 3 (Modest Increase) will generate \$28.1B by 2044
 - Scenario 4 (Aggressive Increase) will generate \$35.1B by 2044
- Gap and Revenue Scenarios
 - How do we address the funding gap between revenues and needs?
 - Total shortfall over 33 years per mode:
 - Roadway & Bridge: \$12.59B
 - Transit: \$5.38B
 - Freight & Passenger Rail: \$1.98B
 - Waterways & Ports: \$6.61B
 - Aviation: \$1.94B
- Rural Louisiana Survey Results
 - Viable industries: natural resource-based; tourism, recreation, retirement communities; and Cottage industries
 - Transportation improvements: improve access to attract industry, preserve mobility in transportation corridors; human services and higher speed access to jobs

- Policies: target/focus resources to maximize impact, coordinate with LED to complement economic development investments

Brief Overview of AC Meetings

Heath Allen (Aviation AC Chair) presented the following highlights from the **Aviation AC** meeting:

- Revenue Discussion
 - Scenario 2B is most likely
 - Concern with mixing needs and revenue
 - Logical funding options
 - Motor fuels sales tax
 - Violation surcharge
- Policy Recommendations
 - Not enough talent in state for airplane mechanics and pilots
 - Coordination with DOTD and LED
- Aviation Plan Discussion
 - Drop recommendation A-28, conflicts with A-19
 - Remove 1 airport from NPIAS
 - Concern with adding airports to parishes that don't have one now – Livingston and Plaquemines

Krista Goodin (CDM Smith) presented the following highlights from the **Community Development and Enhancement AC** meeting:

- Revenue Discussion
 - Both groups chose Scenario 3B (or a new scenario between 3B and 4B)
 - Group 1: Take \$ from Access Management line item and add to Urban Transit line item
 - Aging population, millennial demand
 - Group 2:
 - Decrease Local Assistance Program line item by \$10M and add to Intermodal Connectors line item
 - Increase megaprojects in earlier years to get capital funding and decrease in later years but decrease overall to distribute to programs below
 - Increase Transp. Alternatives line item to \$23M
 - Increase Local Road Safety Program line item to \$10M
- Viable funding options
 - Indexing or % of statewide sales tax
 - Local option tax (state needs to give authority)
 - Advanced transportation districts
 - Tolling, but only new capacity
 - Motor fuels sales tax
 - Increase registration fees – especially for 3rd & 4th vehicle
 - No VMT user fee
- New funding options
 - Project specific tax – should tax new industrial development and require transportation impact plans prior to permits for construction
- Policy Recommendations
 - Added “Local Assistance Road Program” – Medium Priority

- Added “Increase State Assistance in Transportation Planning for Non-Metro Areas.” – high priority (this was also mentioned in RPO/State Hwy O&M)
- Plan Implementation
 - PR campaign to educate public and legislators about the Plan – (needs, projects, funding limitations, funding options)
 - In layman terms
 - Canned presentations/talking points for partners and stakeholders
 - Policy Committee should appoint a committee to promote/implement the Plan

Dennis Decker (RPO AC Chair) and Vince Latino (State Highway O&M AC Chair) presented the following highlights from the joint **Regional Planning Officials and State Highway Operations & Maintenance AC** meeting:

- Asset Management Plan
- Megaprojects – validated Priority A & B lists
- Revenue Scenario Discussion
 - Scenario 3B is most likely
 - Shift some of the pavement preservation funds to bridge preservation funds
 - Increase Major Repairs/Generators/Pump Stations line item
 - Increase Parish Transportation Fund line item
 - Need to develop interstate lighting needs and determine if line item needs to be increased
- Viable Funding Options
 - Gas tax/sales tax/indexing – 6 to 8 Votes
 - Local option tax/VMT user fee – 12 to 14 Votes
- Policy recommendations – New topics
 - Allow mobility funds to be used on megaprojects
 - Convert public fleet to alternative fuels
 - Develop an ADA compliance program
 - Support military presence in project selection
 - Raise letter bid capital costs to \$1M (from \$500K)
 - Allow federally funded projects to be bid in districts

Carmack Blackmon (Freight Rail AC Chair) presented the following highlights from the **Freight Rail AC** meeting:

- Revenue Discussion
 - Scenario 3B is most likely
 - Increase recommended Freight Rail Program line item to \$25M/year
- Funding Options
 - Low: gas sales tax, VMT, advanced transportation districts, sales tax
 - Low to medium: Local option
 - Medium: indexing, registration fees, project specific tax
 - Medium to high: tolling
- New Funding Options
 - Public Private Partnerships (P3)
 - Investigate funding through State Infrastructure Bank
- Policy Recommendations

- Revise CDE-11: Provide continued financial support for the Southern Rail Commission.
- Merge INF-12 with other [Statewide Rail System Program funding] with “Support establishment of state-funded Rail Retention and Infrastructure Program...” + “provide statewide funding for” shortline rail program
- Delete last policy recommendation from Economic Council “provide advocacy for rail shippers”

Joe Accardo, Jr. (Ports and Waterways AC Chair) presented highlights from the **Ports and Waterways AC** meeting:

- Performance Measures – Change wording to 1 (port deepening)
- Scenario 3B is most likely
- Port Priority Program should be doubled
- Not accounting for O&M needs
- Funding Options
 - Use capital outlay funds to match \$ for channel deepening
 - State has authority to tax shippers, can \$ be used for channel deepening (issue for Plan)
 - DOTD does not have authority to use TTF on navigation projects
 - Advanced Transportations Districts for specific projects
 - Local Option Tax
- New Funding Options
 - Vehicle Sales Tax dedication to Port Program is under threat
 - New 1 Cent per gallon tax on all fuels except for aviation
 - General Sales Tax of ¼ cent towards maritime
- Megaprojects
 - MS River Deepening – change DOTD contribution from \$0 to State Contribution of \$150M from Capital Outlay Funds

Robin Romeo (LA DOTD) presented highlights from the **Trucking AC** meeting:

- Revenue/Funding Options
 - Prefer scenario 3B (in between 3B and 4B)
 - Increase interstate pavement preservation (looks low compared to other preservation \$)
 - Bridge maintenance/weight limits due to aging & deterioration causing truck re-routing
 - Oppose indexing motor fuels tax
 - Oppose VMT User Fee
 - Like project specific tax (defined by time, amount and project for all fuels)
 - Equitable tax for alternative fuel vehicles
- Policy Recommendations
 - New Policy: Collaborate and coordinate with LED to provide transportation needs and solutions for businesses.
 - Revise #10 - Consolidate state trucking regulatory, safety, and enforcement affairs in 1 agency.
 - #19 – Need to include “restore” for routes supporting energy and mining.
- Megaprojects
 - Move Leake Avenue from Priority D to A and tie to the Ports of New Orleans Expansion project.



Other Comments

Eric Kalivoda asked the members of the AC to look at their calendars. He would like to hold a full day workshop sometime in the next month to finalize portions of the Plan prior to presenting to the Policy Committee.